

REMARKS

In the action of October 22, 2003, the examiner rejected claims 1, 4, 6-9, 11-13, 15, 17, 18 and 22-26 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Huff; and rejected claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Pallini, Jr. et al. The examiner further indicated that claims 3, 5, 10, 14 and 19-21 contain allowable subject matter.

First, claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations that the first member is substantially rigidly attached to a body appliance member. In addition, the open center area of the first member extends through the first member, which permits the appliance driving member to extend through the open center area of the first member.

Huff teaches a solid base member 10 which has grooves therein to receive the ends of spring members 20. There is no central opening in member 10 which extends all the way through member 10. Hence, an appliance driving member can not extend freely through element 10 of Huff.

In Pallini, there is no teaching of a fixed attachment between sleeve 12 (appliance body member) and ring 25 (first member). Ring 25 is preferably not affixed to sleeve 12. In applicant's invention, it is important that the first member be fixedly attached to the appliance body member. In addition, element 14 (driving member) is referred to is a "riser pipe" which penetrates the keel of a platform. It is not an appliance driving member. It does not move back and forth to drive an appliance, with the leg members tending to return the spring structure to its original center position in

response to the driving member reaching the end points of its range of movement.

Accordingly, claim 1 is patentable over Pallini and Huff.

Claim 22 has been amended to recite a seal member between a head portion of an appliance and the appliance body member, with the leg members including connections for correcting the leg members to the appliance body member. Such a structure is not shown by Huff, and was indicated to be potentially allowable in the previous action. Hence, claim 22 is allowable over Huff.

In view of the above, claims 1-26 are in condition for allowance and such action on the part of the examiner is respectfully requested.

This is to request a two month extension of time. Enclosed is our check for \$420. Any additional fees can be charged to Deposit Account 07-1900.

Respectfully submitted,
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Enclosures: Postcard, Check for 2 months extension of time